

REMARKS

The Office Action dated September 25, 2003 has been carefully reviewed. Claims 8-13 and 21-25 are pending in this application. Claims 21-25 were indicated as being allowable. Claims 11 and 12 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim. Claims 8-10 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 4,450,834 issued to Fischer. By this amendment, claim 8 has been amended to include the limitations of allowed claim 11, and claim 11 has been cancelled. Claim 12 has been amended to depend from claim 8 in lieu of cancelled claim 11. As such, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections to claims 8-10 and 13.

Per the Examiner's request, Applicant is enclosing herewith replacement copies of the "Other References" which were previously submitted in the IDS dated 11/21/01.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that this application is in a condition for allowance. Action to that end is hereby solicited.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 with reference to file 14291-68335.

Respectfully submitted,

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